

Cultural Resources Element – Goals and Strategies

Goal CR-1: Preserve and enhance York County’s heritage resources as a source of unique community identity, vitality, and history.

CR-1A: Preservation Strategies

1. Zoning & Growth Management – Review and update development ordinances to ensure protection of significant historic and archaeological sites
 - Consider working with the Cultural and Heritage Commission to adopt a historic preservation ordinance that establishes a historic preservation commission, which designates locally significant properties, protects their integrity through development review, and authorizes design guidelines within historic districts
 - Consider extending scenic overlay ordinance to include additional sites, and further amending to expand protection to all zoning districts, and to prevent threats to viewsheds from intrusive uses. Establish and enforce financial penalties for violations that result in the demolition, destruction, removal, or relocation of significant resources
 - Amend the Planned Development District to include incentives to preserve historically significant properties or promote redevelopment of historic properties.
2. Support redevelopment and adaptive reuse efforts over new construction
 - Prioritize adaptive reuse in the county facilities plan and encourage county departments and agencies to utilize the redevelopment and reuse of structures of historic or architectural interest
 - Identify acceptable variations from the building code requirements (that do not impact public health and safety) for historic properties when modern codes may compromise the historic character of the site
 - Recognize the sustainability of historic structures and consider incentives for energy efficient certification, where appropriate
3. Maintain a GIS database of historically, architecturally, and archaeologically significant properties to include National Register sites, eligible National Register sites, and locally significant sites
 - Review and update the 1992 county-wide survey of historic resources
 - Develop and implement a strategy for continuing to identify and document heritage resources and updating the database at least every 5 years

CR-1B: Enhancement Strategies

1. Support and participate in nomination of eligible properties to National Register of Historic Places
2. Pursue Certified Local Government (CLG) status for York County
3. Implement the goals and strategies of Western York County Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan (CMP)
 - Encourage management and promotion of the byway by local stakeholders

- Evaluate the CMP on a systematic basis to provide for revisions and updates
- 4. Increase the awareness, importance, marketability, and accessibility of York County historic resources for all visitors and residents
 - Support and enhance existing county historical facilities
 - Create and publicize a directory or webpage of historic resources in York County
 - Encourage private conservation efforts through local recognition or awards program
 - Promote the South Carolina Historical Marker program
 - Continue to promote programs for school children that would expand their understanding of the history and culture of the community
- 5. Amend Preservation Tax Incentive Ordinance by extending eligibility to include locally significant properties or properties within locally designated historic districts
- 6. Actively seek grant funding and build partnerships with both public and private agencies to foster preservation and protection of historic resources
 - Maintain a list of all agencies, non-profit organizations, historical societies, history museums, libraries with history collections, and other entities and organizations involved in archaeology and/or historic preservation
 - Support research efforts and archaeological activities to expand the knowledge base of Native American inhabitants of York County by working with Catawba Nation Cultural Center
 - Seek to promote knowledge of and preservation of African-American heritage
 - Provide information on historic resource webpage about state and federal financial preservation tax incentive programs and support grant and tax credit requests by owners of historically significant properties

Goal CR-2: Preserve and protect the rural landscapes and scenic open spaces of York County.

CR-2A: Preservation Strategies

1. Zoning & Growth Management – Evaluate existing and/or establish new development standards to ensure that rural landscapes, prime agricultural farmland, and scenic open spaces are protected and that growth is not out of character with their inherent attributes
 - Encourage cluster development in rural areas
 - Promote growth that does not negatively impact sensitive environmental resources, including unique plant and animal habitats, wetlands, and prime agricultural and forest lands
 - Increase road connectivity in developed areas in order to minimize the need for new rural roads and ensure that any new road connections or improvements have minimal impact on active farmland and other natural assets
2. Support and encourage the mission of York County Forever
 - Consider funding mechanisms for York County Forever.
 - Reevaluate the goals and mission of York County Forever

- Maintain and systemically update a web-based priority list of significant natural, historic, agricultural, outdoor recreational, and scenic open space resource properties
- Continue to conserve properties in the Brattonsville-Blackjack Focus Area and City of York Greenbelt, and renew funding for PDRs.
- Actively seek to maintain a full roster of qualified Commissioners
- Place conservation easements on preserved sites and ensure that stewardship plans and best management practices are utilized in managing the properties
- Foster partnership opportunities between YCF and other private and public organizations
- Continue promotion and public educational awareness of YCF's mission, goals, benefits, and success stories

Goal CR-3: Support and encourage York County's wealth of cultural resources to attract new commerce and industry, promote employment, and to build tourism.

1. Support organizations whose objectives include promoting cultural arts in York County
 - Continue to support and enhance existing county art and cultural facilities
 - Provide display space in county buildings for local artists and craftsmen, and urge local businesses to showcase local artists in their buildings
 - Incorporate public art, excellent urban design, and architecture in public projects
 - Consider federal, state, and foundation grants to diversify exhibit collections and expand educational opportunities
2. Provide support for special events and festivals
 - Maintain a comprehensive calendar of festivals and events available on the York County website; provide links to relevant festival websites; encourage communication among all festival or event coordinators
 - Support event and festival coordinators by searching for federal, state, and foundation grants or encouraging them to pursue funding through the Hospitality Tax Grant Program or Accommodations Tax Program
 - Encourage new festivals and events that highlight the diverse cultural backgrounds of York County residents and identify and work with community groups to organize publicly sponsored arts and cultural events and festivals
 - Consider opportunities to hold cultural events and festivals at county property or facilities
3. Encourage opportunities for visitors and residents to experience heritage and cultural tourism throughout the county
 - Support implementation of SCRPT's Tourism Product Development Concept Action Plan for the Catawba Region
 - Develop and install standardized signage for York County cultural tourism sites
 - Cooperate with and promote partnerships with the CVB and other county agencies, Olde English Tourism District, Chambers of Commerce, municipalities, agricultural,

cultural, heritage, educational, and other non-profit organizations for a coordinated planning approach to increase public awareness of tourism's economic contributions to York County; strengthen communication among tourism organizations in order to develop a themed marketing strategy; and to create cohesive plans for visitor friendly areas with clusters of attractions and facilities

- Provide information to existing websites that disseminate information and use social media as community outreach tools for listing and promoting all cultural and heritage tourism sites within the county
- Work with the CVB and other similar organizations to create and update printed brochures and phone apps for all heritage and cultural tourism sites within the county